

### AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-56, without prejudice toward the further prosecution of these claims in a Continuation and/or Divisional Application.

1 – 56. (Canceled)

57. (New) A method for suppressing bacterial growth in a blood fraction, comprising adding to a blood fraction a compound selected from the group consisting of L-carnitine, salts of L-carnitine, alkanoyl carnitines, salts of alkanoyl carnitines, and mixtures thereof, in an amount effective to suppress bacterial growth in said blood fraction,

wherein said blood fraction is a platelet concentrate, and wherein said method comprises suspending said platelet concentrate in a support solution which comprises said compound.

58. (New) The method of Claim 57, wherein said compound is comprised in a support solution in a concentration of 0.25 to 50 mM.

59. (New) The method of Claim 57, wherein said compound is comprised in a support solution in a concentration of 1 to 30 mM.

60. (New) The method of Claim 57, wherein said compound is L-carnitine.

61. (New) The method of Claim 57, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of acetyl L-carnitine, propionyl L-carnitine, butyryl L-carnitine, isobutyryl L-carnitine, valeryl L-carnitine, and isovaleryl L-carnitine.

62. (New) A method of reducing glycolysis in a blood fraction, comprising adding to a blood fraction a compound selected from the group consisting of L-carnitine, salts of L-carnitine, alkanoyl carnitines, salts of alkanoyl carnitines, and mixtures thereof, in an amount effective to reduce glycolysis in said blood fraction,

wherein said blood fraction is a platelet concentrate, and wherein said method comprises suspending said platelet concentrate in a support solution which comprises said

compound.

63. (New) The method of Claim 62, wherein said compound is comprised in a support solution in a concentration of 0.25 to 50 mM.

64. (New) The method of Claim 62, wherein said compound is comprised in a support solution in a concentration of 1 to 30 mM.

65. (New) The method of Claim 62, wherein said compound is L-carnitine.

66. (New) The method of Claim 62, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of acetyl L-carnitine, propionyl L- carnitine, butyryl L-carnitine, isobutyryl L-carnitine, valeryl L-carnitine, and isovaleryl L-carnitine.